#### REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application.

### Claim Amendments

Claims 1-27 were previously pending.

Claims 1, 10, and 19 are amended.

Claims 7, 9, 16, 18, 25, 27 are cancelled.

No new claims are added.

Claims 1-6, 8, 10-15, 17, 19-24, 26 are currently pending.

## Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 10, and 19

Applicants are grateful for allowable subject matter found by the Examiner. Independent claims 1, 10, and 19 have been rewritten to coincide with changes suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action of August 25, 2004. Specifically, claim 1 adopts changes exactly as drafted by the Examiner for allowance.

Applicants concur with the Examiner that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance, and respectfully suggest that claims 10 and 19 are also in condition for allowance, because they incorporate the same changes as suggested by the Examiner for allowance of claim 1.

# Claims 2-6, 8, 11-15, 17, 20-24, and 26

Claims 2-6, 8, 11-15, 17, 20-24, and 26 are dependent on their respective base claims. Dependent claims contain the language of the base claims from

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which they depend. Claims 2-6, and 8 depend from base claim 1. Claims 11-15, and 17 depend from base claim 10. Claims 20-24, and 26 depend from base claim 19. For at least the reasons set forth above with respect to base claims 1, 10, and 19, Applicants submit that claims 2-6, 8, 11-15, 17, 20-24, and 26 are now in condition for allowance.

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### **CONCLUSION**

Applicants respectfully suggest that claims 1-6, 8, 10-15, 17, 19-24, 26 are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9-20-04

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